

# OUSD Climate Action and Sustainability Board Policy

First Read and Overview

Board of Education  
March 12th, 2025  
OUSD Facilities Planning & Management



**OAKLAND UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Community Schools, Thriving Students*

# Ask of the Board

First read of the Climate Action and Sustainability Draft Board Policy for questions, observations, and feedback.

# Grounding the Work

## Climate Emergency Action Resolution (Passed in 2020)

1

Established Two Goals:  
**100% clean electricity by 2030**  
**Phase out the use of fossil fuels by 2040**

2

Establishment of Inter-Departmental Task Force and Sustainability Advisory Council

3

Draft a Climate Emergency Board Policy (Phase 2) and Plan (Phase 3).  
Focus Areas: *clean and efficient energy, water resilience, waste prevention, transportation, facilities, living schoolyards, purchasing, nutrition and food systems, curriculum integration, culture and values, and environmental sustainability funding*

# Guiding Directives

## OUSD Strategic Plan Initiatives (2021-2024)

Ensuring Strong Readers by the Third Grade

Supporting Empowered Graduates

Creating Joyful Schools

Growing a Diverse and Stable Staff

## Federal, State, County, and City

Senate Bill 1383 (2016)

CA Draft Climate Action Plan (2024)

CA Title 24 (2024)

Alameda County Climate Action Plan (2023)

Oakland ECAP (2020)

## OUSD Plans, Guidelines, and Board Policies

Wellness Policy – Nutrition Guidelines (2014)

Facilities Master Plan (2020)

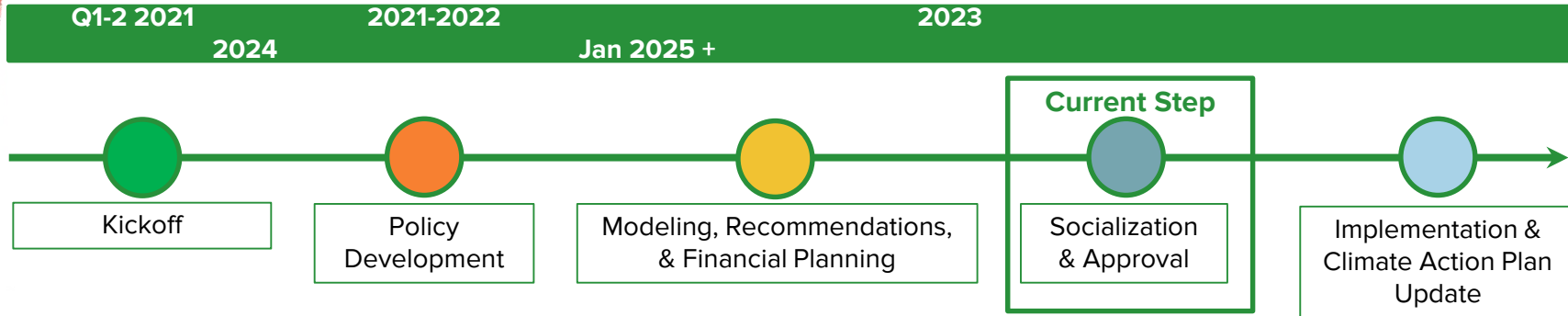
Good Food Purchasing Policy (2017)

Living Schoolyards Guidelines (2022)

Environmental & Climate Change Literacy (2019)

Shared Operational Savings & Green Revolving Fund Resolution (2014)

# Sustainability Policy: Progress Timeline



## Informing Our Policy

- Historical Sustainability Baseline \*
- Cost Estimate Analysis \*\*
- Implementation Plan Assumptions Drafting \*\*\*
- Greenhouse Gas Inventory Baseline and Reduction Modeling
- Peer Institution Research \*\*\*\*
- City of Oakland Alignment

\*Appendix Slide 25 \*\* Appendix Slides 26-27 \*\*\* Appendix Slide 24  
\*\*\*\*Appendix Slides 21-22

## Community Touchpoints \*

- Sustainability Advisory Council and District Staff Task Force Monthly Meetings \*\*
- Community Survey
- Sustainability Website
- Awareness Video
- Student Engagement Projects

\*Community Engagement Roadmap: Appendix Slide 20  
\*\*Governance Structure: Appendix Slide 19

# Collaborators & Advisors

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Facilities Planning & Management

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Risk Management

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Custodial Services

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Building & Grounds

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Transportation Services

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Procurement

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Academics & Innovation

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District Communications

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Linked Learning

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The Center, Nutrition Services

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OUSD Families

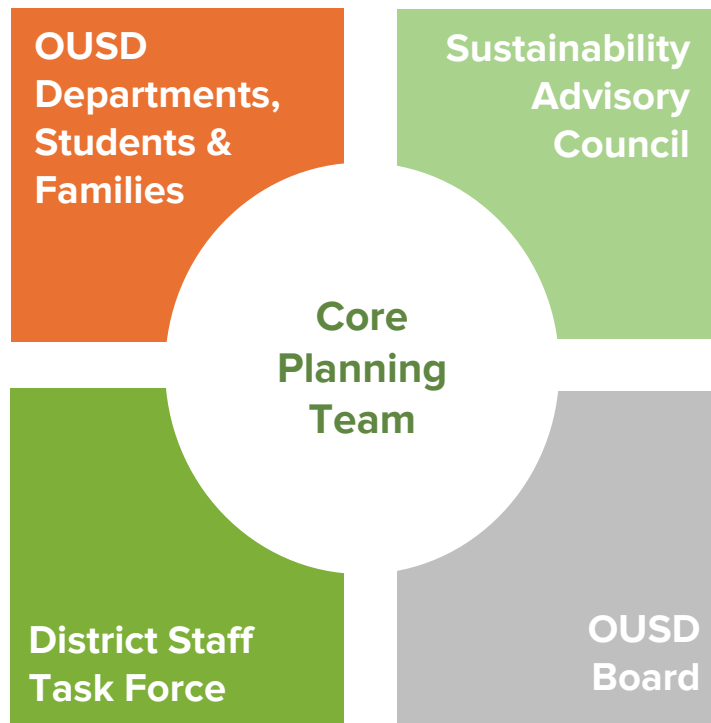
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Students

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Teachers

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# Sustainability Policy - Goal Areas



Culture and Values

Community Engagement Plan



Curriculum Integration

Climate Literacy Policy (ECCL)



Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy

- Solar
- Energy Efficiency Upgrades
- Batteries
- Renewable Energy Purchasing



Waste Prevention

Waste Prevention Program



Water Resilience

Plumbing Replacement & Upgrades



Facilities

- Green Building Standards
- HVAC Assessments
- CO2 Sensors



Living Schoolyards

Living Schoolyards Policy & Guidelines



Purchasing

Green Purchasing Policy



Transportation

- Electric Bus Fleet
- Electric Vehicle Charging



Nutrition and Food Systems

Sustainable Dining Options



Sustainability Funding

Green Revolving Fund

Current Initiatives

# Expanding Funding Sources

Current options shown are subject to change as OUSD continues to explore and secure new opportunities. We are committed to providing future updates on funding sources as part of the Implementation Phase.

National / Regional	Third-Party	OUSD
Inflation Reduction Act	Bond <i>(~\$4.5 million to Energy Efficiency)</i>	Operational Budget / General Fund
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law	Utility Incentives	Capital Budgets
State Funding (Prop 2) <i>(\$10 billion for school districts)</i>	Grants & Fundraising	Energy Efficiency Savings / Green Revolving Fund



# Facilities Committee Feedback

*Presented at the January and February 2025 Meetings*

- Board Feedback from January 16th Facilities Committee Meeting Incorporated
  - Moved Curriculum Integration Policy Goal
  - Funding Sources Future Updates
  - Additional Student Engagement
- Sustainability Survey Outreach & Results Update



# Sustainability Survey

## Outreach Tactics & Key Metrics

### Direct Email Messaging

- Community Managers (High School and Middle Schools)
- Sustainability Advisory Council
- Sustainability District Staff Task Force
- All City Council (ACC)
- Youth Vs. Apocalypse
- Oakland Teachers Advancing Climate Action (OTACA)
- Student Peer-to-Peer Sharing

### Newsletters

- ParentSquare
- OUSD Works
- Engaging OUSD
- We Are OUSD

### Social Media

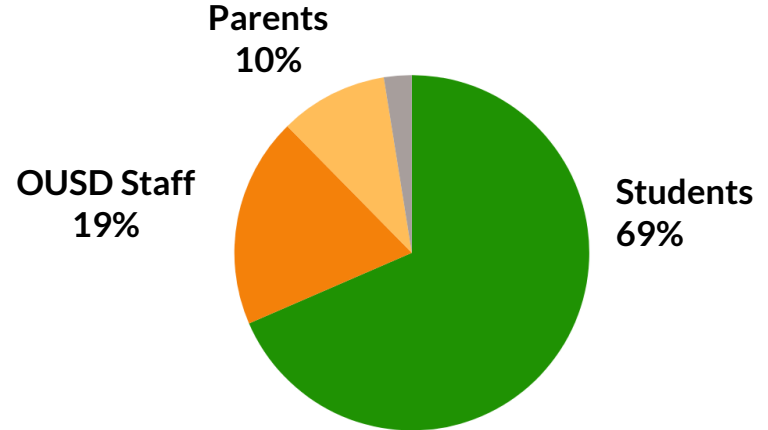
- Sustainability Website: <https://www.ousd.org/sustainability>
- Youtube Video
- OUSD Instagram Post

### Student Presentations

- Oakland High ESA Pathway Classes
- Oakland Tech AP Environmental Science Class
- Fourteen Kinder - 5th Grade Highland Community School Classes (Trish Belenson)

## Key Metrics\*

**711** Total Responses



**31%** Latinx

**20%** African American

**18%** Asian

**26** Elementary Schools

**10** High Schools

**8** Middle Schools

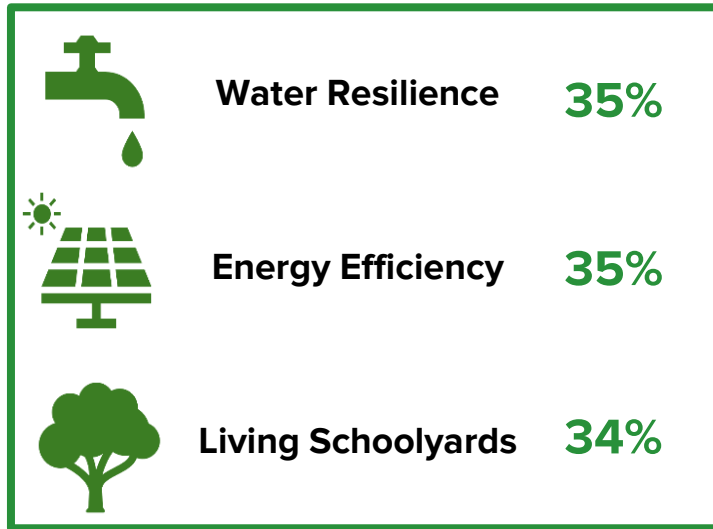
\*As of 2/26/25

# Sustainability Survey

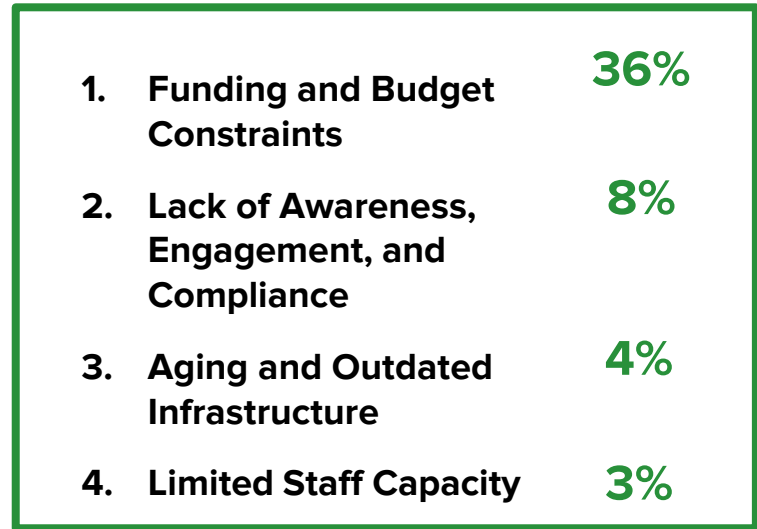
Preliminary Results (updated 2/26/2025)

**Survey Goal:** To inform the Sustainability Policy and Implementation Plan

## Top 3 Priorities



## Challenges Identified



# OUSD Sustainability Outreach Video



## Video Metrics\*

**428** Youtube Views

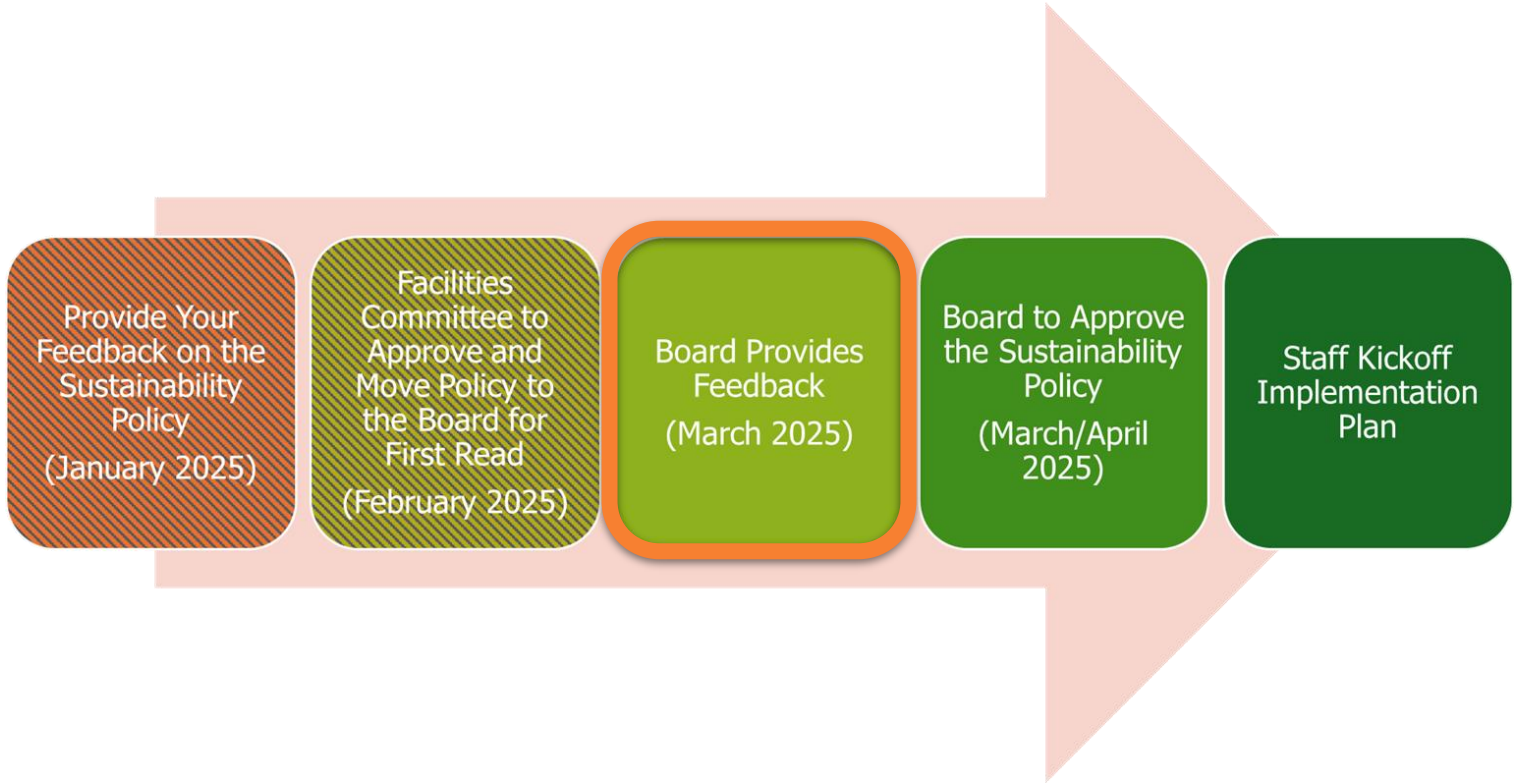
**169** Instagram Likes

**50** Instagram Shares

\*As of 2/26/25

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/-RMIBDZrzQ?si=JTXq93TrZ1U1ctcu>

# Next Steps: Ask of the Board



# Stay Engaged with Sustainability at OUSD!

1. Take our Sustainability Survey
2. Watch and Share our Sustainability at OUSD Video
3. Visit the OUSD Sustainability Website



Current Initiative In Action: Waste Prevention Program



<http://www.ousd.org/sustainability>



# Any Questions?

For more information, please reach out:

Preston Thomas, OUSD Chief of Systems & Services

Pranita Ranbhise, OUSD Director, Facilities Planning & Management

Hannah Press, Assistant Project Manager Sustainability & Energy Efficiency,  
OUSD Facilities Planning & Management

Thora Butler, Sustainability & Equity Fellow, Sustainability Service Corps



# Appendix



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# Overview of the OUSD Climate Emergency Action Planning Approach

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## Phase 1: OUSD Climate Emergency Action Resolution

This Resolution is high level and intentionally defers the work of strategic planning and goals-setting to the policy development phase in order to allow for deep and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

## Phase 2: OUSD Climate Emergency Action Board Policy

This policy will present the vision of OUSD's Climate Action and Sustainability Activities. The policy will provide high-level direction and establish overarching sustainability goals. The policy will be created by the OUSD Task Force and Community Sustainability Advisory Council, working in collaboration.

## Phase 3: - Sustainability Plan / Administrative Regulations

This plan (AKA Administrative Regulation) will serve as OUSD's comprehensive implementation plan related to climate action and sustainability. It will be the single resource containing all of OUSD's sustainability goals, strategies, implementation timelines, funding considerations, etc.

# Governance Structure

## OUR APPROACH

### Core Planning Team

- OUSD Facilities Planning & Management
- Brailsford & Dunlavy: Hannah Press, Assistant Project Manager; BACR Sustainability & Equity Fellow
- Develop recommendations for Policy Development
- General Oversight

### Facilities Department Leadership

- Pranita Ranbhise: Director, Facilities Planning & Management
- Preston Thomas: Chief Systems and Services Officer (CSSO)
- Approve Recommendations

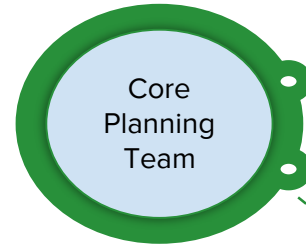
### Task Force and Sustainability Advisory Council

- High-level, Multi-disciplinary
- Provide Feedback to Core Team for Policy development

### Department Leadership

- Policy-Related Department Review and Feasibility Feedback
- Accountability of Policy-Implementation

*Department Leadership*



*Internal Community*

*External Community*

Facilities  
Department  
Leadership

Task Force  
and  
Sustainability  
Advisory  
Council

### Internal Community (as needed)

- Key community members, constituents and subject matter experts
- Student engagement
- Provide Feedback and Best Practice Insights

### External Community (as needed)

- City Planning & Development staff
- Provide Feedback and Best Practice Insights



# Oakland Unified School District Sustainability Planning & Engagement Process

The Oakland Unified School District's (OUSD) 2020 Climate Emergency Action Resolution outlines ambitious objectives, including achieving 100 percent clean electricity by 2030 and eliminating fossil fuels by 2040. To realize these objectives, OUSD is crafting a comprehensive Sustainability Policy and a subsequent Climate Action Plan to serve as a guide for the implementation of sustainability solutions across the District. Below are the engagement activities that involve collaborative efforts of interdisciplinary interest groups to shape the plan and policy.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT



**Sustainability Advisory Council (SAC) Kick-Off**  
Meet to outline the goals and objectives of the Council.



**District Staff Task Force Kick-Off**  
Meet to outline the goals and objectives of the Task Force.



**SAC Monthly Meetings**  
Draft initial goals and priorities for the Policy and Implementation Plan.



**Department Leadership Meetings**  
Review initial draft goals as they relate to each department.



**District Staff Task Force Monthly Meetings**  
Draft initial goals and priorities for the Policy and Implementation Plan.

## INFORMING POLICY



**Industry Subject Matter Experts Meetings**  
Validate initial draft goals with industry subject matter experts. This may include individuals from partner organizations or environmental agencies.



**Peer Institution Research**  
Research and conduct analysis on comparable districts to incorporate best practices and lessons learned into the Policy and Implementation Plan.



**Cost Estimate Analysis**  
Estimate cost-savings of the Policy and Implementation Plan.



**Re-launch District Staff Task Force**  
Collaborate on Policy recommendations, cost analysis, and Implementation Plan assumptions.



**Draft Implementation Plan Assumptions**  
Begin drafting preliminary implementation plan activities to provide insights into the policy objectives.

## CONSULTING COMMUNITY



**Community Surveys**  
Conduct surveys with various interest groups to further gain insight into community priorities.



**Awareness Building**  
Increase community awareness of the sustainability policy by providing platforms to share updates, educate, and engage the community in the policy and planning process.



**Draft Policy Finalization**  
Incorporate all feedback into a final draft Policy for District leadership review.

## BOARD PREPARATION



**Draft Policy Presented to Facilities Committee**  
Present final policy for first read. Policy will either be approved or be re-presented inclusive of suggested revisions.



**Draft Policy Presented to District Board**  
Present Policy for approval. Policy will either be approved or be re-presented inclusive of suggested revisions

## PLAN IMPLEMENTATION



**Re-engage the SAC**  
Gather feedback on the Implementation Plan.



**Board-Facilitated Town Hall Meetings**  
Gather community input about how to implement the sustainability policy that will shape the sustainability plan.



**Draft Implementation Plan**  
Incorporate all feedback into a draft Implementation Plan for District leadership review.

<b>Action</b>	Feedback Collected	Information Shared
<b>Audience</b>	District Staff	OUSD's Facilities Department Sustainability Team
	Community	Sustainability Experts

### Notes:

1. Presented at the February 2024 Facilities Committee meeting.
2. Updated in November 2024.

For more information contact Hannah Press at [hannah.press@ousd.org](mailto:hannah.press@ousd.org).  
**Updated November 2024**

\*Steps in process are subject to change.



# Subject Matter Expert and Peer Institutions Research

- Engaged in best practices discussions with nine school districts on sustainability planning.
  - Topics covered: policy/plan development, community engagement, cost analysis, building requirements, challenges, etc.
- Partnering with the City of Oakland Sustainability Team for joint community engagement activities.
- Subject Matter Experts provided review of the draft Sustainability Policy.



Note: Presented at the February 2024 Facilities Committee meeting.

# Peer Institutions Research

## *Best Practices Recommendations*

### Community and District Staff Meetings Structure

- Targeted Topics: Focus community meetings around specific subjects (Ex. Water, Curriculum, ect.).
- Department Inclusion: Regular sessions with department heads for coordination and collaboration on sustainability initiatives.
- Consistent Goals: Keep consistent meeting goals across each specific community meeting subject.
  - What do we maintain, discontinue, and develop?
- Excellent Facilitation: Employ proficient facilitators for community meetings.

### Community Engagement

- Student Voice: Foster student participation in sustainability projects (Ex. Surveys & Focus Groups).
- Foster Action & Awareness: Emphasize and raise awareness of District sustainability actions and practices.

### Sustainability Curriculum

- Integration: Evaluate the current curriculum for sustainability integration.
- Utilization: Use on-site resources for sustainability education (Ex. living schoolyards, air quality monitoring).

Note: Presented at the February 2024 Facilities Committee meeting.

# Energy and Sustainability Initiatives

FALL 2024

Completed	In Progress		Potential New	
Utility Bill Tax Refunds	Ava Electricity Contract	EV Charging Pilot	Formalize Green Revolving Fund	Expanded EV Charging
Energy and GHG Baseline	Solar PPA Phase 2 & 3	Sun Power Maintenance	Energy Efficiency Upgrades (PG&E OBF)	Demand Response Management
Community Engagement Strategy	Cal Shape Upgrades	Board Policy & Climate Action Plan	Building Controls Strategy	
Climate Action Roadmap	Solar REC Sales Agreement	Battery Pilots		
Solar PPA Phase 1				

Note: Presented at the October 2024 Facilities Committee meeting.

# The Major Initiatives

## PRELIMINARY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN ASSUMPTIONS (Updated June 2024)

INITIATIVE	DESCRIPTION
Energy Efficiency	Lighting retrofits, mechanical system improvements, retro-commissioning, etc.
Space Optimization	Optimize building GSF and usage
On-Site Renewables	Solar or battery projects
Off-Site Renewables	Replace grid-purchased electricity with renewable electricity
Energy Transition	Electrify natural gas equipment while addressing deferred maintenance and capital renewal needs

## NOT YET MODELED

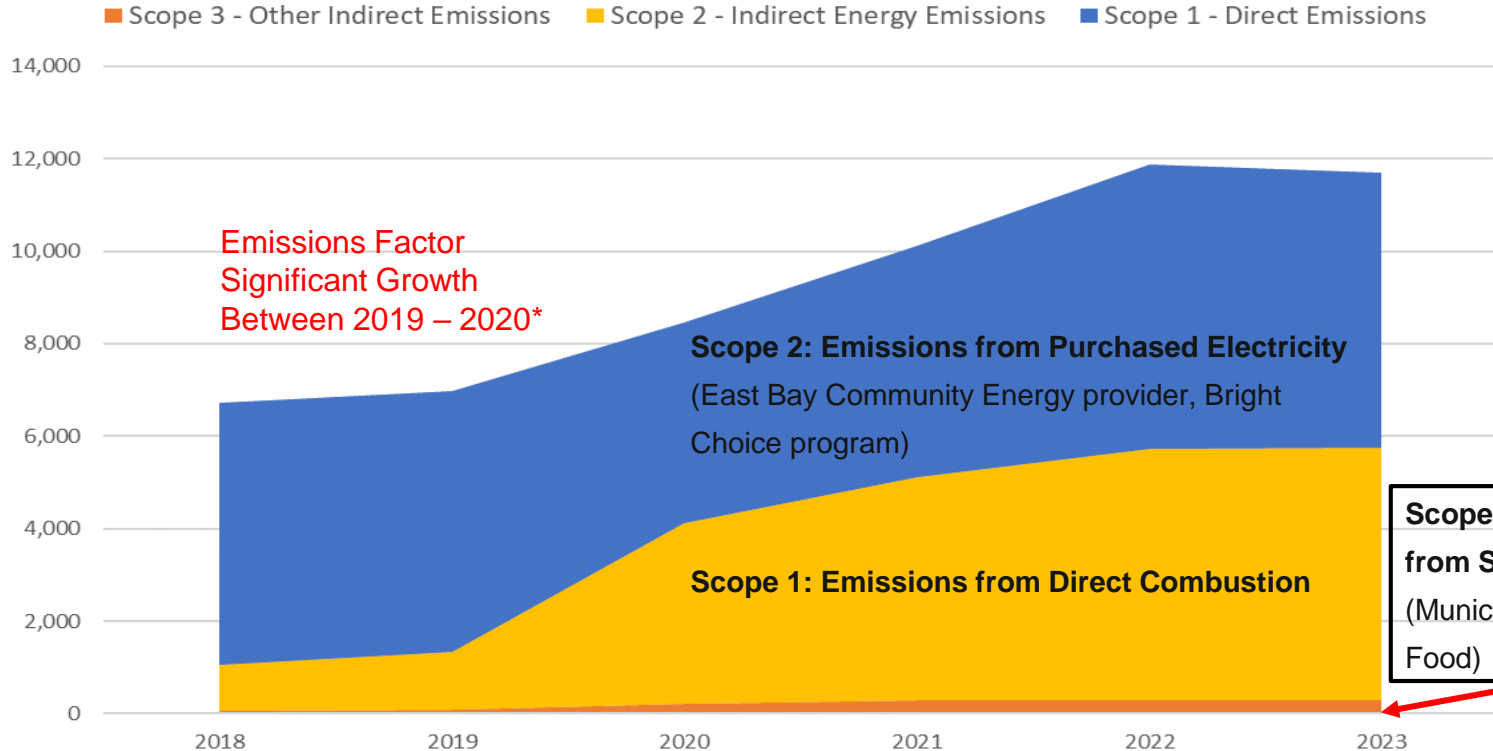
INITIATIVES	DESCRIPTION
EV Fleet Conversion	Convert current fleet vehicles to electric
Waste Management	Diversion of waste from the landfills, increased recycled waste, and decreased overall quantity of waste



# Historical Greenhouse Gas Emissions

SPRING 2024 - SCOPE 1 & 2 GHG INVENTORY (Updated June 2024)

Oakland Unified School District GHG Emissions (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)



# Energy & Utility Financial Context

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS - REPORTED UTILITY BILLS, O&M, AND ESTIMATED CAPITAL (Updated June 2024)

• Item	FY 23	2024 through 2050	
		Present Value <sup>1</sup>	Cumulative
Utility Bills (Electricity, natural gas)	\$ 6.3 M	\$ 127 M	\$ 240 M
O&M <sup>2</sup> – MEP Systems	\$ 1.6 M	\$ 23 M	\$ 41 M
Capital Renewal <sup>3</sup> – MEP, HVAC, etc.	\$ 5.9 M	\$ 131 M	\$ 250 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 13.8 M</b>	<b>\$ 281 M</b>	<b>\$ 531 M</b>
Carbon Risk <sup>4</sup>	\$ 0.5 M	\$ 15 M	\$ 31 M
<b>Total with Carbon Risk</b>	<b>\$ 14.2 M</b>	<b>\$ 296 M</b>	<b>\$ 562 M</b>

1. Discount Rate = 5%, Inflation Rate = 2.5%, Capital Escalation Rate = 3%

2. O&M costs escalate at 3.0%

3. Capital renewal rate assumption = \$25/GSF every 25 years

4. Assumes \$51 / MTCO<sub>2e</sub> in 2024 escalating at 5% per year.

Read more: <https://www.wired.com/story/the-biden-administration-weighs-the-social-cost-of-carbon/>

# Estimated Projected Cost Comparison

PRELIMINARY LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS (NOW TO 2050) (Updated June 2024)

